

The Panda Book Awards 2015-2016

READ some good books
SHARE your thoughts
NETWORK with students from participating schools
VOTE for your favorite.

The **Panda Book Award** initiative invites students and teachers from participating international schools in China and beyond to vote for their favorite book published in the years 2013-2015. The Panda Book Steering Committee, which includes an international representation of school librarians, is responsible for collecting input from schools, advertising the initiative, and organizing the voting.

There are four separate title lists according to age level:

- Young Readers (4 to 6 years) – picture books - Elementary School
- Middle Readers (7 to 10 years) – chapter books - Elementary School
- Older Readers (11 to 14 years) – Middle School
- Mature Readers (15 to 18 years) – High School

The panda was chosen as the program's mascot as it holds a special place in the hearts of the Chinese people and is a symbol of peace and a token of forging friendly ties. The **Panda Book Award** reading program promises to take our students on an exciting reading adventure. Classroom teachers, language arts teachers, and librarians are encouraged to distribute the reading lists to their students and to incorporate them into their daily teaching.

How to nominate titles for the 2015-2016 lists:

- Participating schools propose lists of titles representing a range of interest and reading levels. Schools may invite students and teachers to nominate their favorite titles. The lists may include non-fiction and fiction.
- There is no limit to the number of titles schools can nominate.
- Librarians or teachers will post their selections on the Panda wiki:
<http://pandabookawards.wikispaces.com/home>
- All titles for the 2015-2016 lists must have 2013-2015 copyright. If necessary, older titles will be considered at the Steering Committee's discretion.
- The Panda Steering Committee will select 10 titles for the Younger Readers and Middle Readers lists, and 8 titles for the Older and Mature Readers lists.
- Every reading list will contain at least 1 title appropriate for readers whose first language is not English.
- There will be four awards: the Young Readers, the Middle Readers, the Older Readers, and the Mature Readers.

Time line:

- February 2015
Each participating school nominates lists of titles. These lists are discussed by the Panda Book Steering Committee who will take into consideration individual schools' requests. The Steering Committee will decide on the final lists and make these public by mid April. This gives participating schools time to order multiple copies of the titles to arrive over the summer.
- July – August 2015
Librarians may promote the titles through a summer reading program.
- September 2015– February 2016
Librarians organize reading promotion activities and plan. The Panda Steering Committee organizes the student and teacher voting sessions to be done during the week after Chinese New Year.
- February 2016
The Steering Committee meets to finalize and confirm the winners of the Panda Book Awards 2015-2016. Winners are contacted as soon as possible.